

U.S. Application No. 10/786,072

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) An access control system in which a plurality of storage devices for storing information resources and access controllers for controlling accesses to the information resources stored in the storage devices are connected with a network, each of the access controllers having an access control list on which access right to each information resource stored in the storage devices is recorded, and each of the access controllers having an access prohibition list on which access prohibited users are recorded who are prohibited from accessing any information resource stored in the storage devices, each access controller comprising:

an access restriction module configured to restrict access to each information resource stored in a storage device and listed on the access control list of the access controller that records access right to each information resource; and

an access interception module configured to restrict the access by reference to the access prohibition list of the access controller, which records user information of access prohibited users, prior to the access control list; and

an access control list update module configured to update the access control list according to the access prohibition list.

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at least one of the access controllers having the updated access prohibition list further comprising a distribution module configured to send out the user information or the updated access prohibition list to the other access controllers in response to the update; and

the other access controllers further comprising a list update module configured to receive the user information or the updated access prohibition list and to update the access prohibition list thereof to include the received user information or updated access prohibition list,

wherein the distribution module of each access controller sends out the user information or the updated prohibition list to a predetermined other one of the access controllers, thereby transmitting the user information or the updated prohibition list from one access controller to ~~another~~another, and

wherein the list update module deletes the user information on the access prohibition list at a predetermined timing.

18. - 28. (Canceled)